



Dutch Research Before 1811

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FamilySearch

USING WIEWASWIE FOR PRE-1811 RESEARCH

- Certificates containing information on people living before 1811:
 - Birth certificates: parents, witnesses
 - Marriage certificates: parents, previous spouses, witnesses
 - Death certificates: the deceased, parents, spouses, witnesses
 - Start with what you know
- Identify whether parents or spouse are living
- Look at witnesses
- Look for marriage supplement records
- **Always find original copies of documents**

Tips for using WieWasWie to search for families

- Use the premium subscription for expanded search features
- Advanced search
 - Person 1: Surname of father
 - Person 2: Surname of mother
 - Click on "date" to organize chronologically
 - For common names, use given names
- Use wild cards
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PARISH REGISTERS

Based on religion – **you must know the religion!** Records can include

- **Baptisms:** Name of child, date of baptism, names of parents (usually including maiden name of mother), names of witnesses. Witnesses are usually close family members.
- **Marriages:** Date of publication of banns (announcements of marriage for three Sundays before the marriage), date of marriage, name of bride and groom, marital status of bride and groom (**j.m.** = bachelor; **j.d.** = maiden; **wed.** = widowed), place of birth/origin of bride and groom (usually only for first marriages), place of residence of bride and groom.
- **Burials:** Date of burial, name of deceased, age, names of parents (if the deceased is a child), tax paid. Burial records can be the least informative record type.
- **Memberships:** usually only for adults. May contain names, date of confession of faith, date of arrival from another parish.

- Look at witnesses
- **Always find original copies of documents**

Accessing parish registers

- FamilySearch – free access to images. Search **FamilySearch Catalog** by parish name.
- Look for indexes! They can be found at:
 - Provincial or municipal archives
 - Online – google search for town name and the word **klapper** or **index**
 - Printed indexes (look for availability)
 - FamilySearch Catalog (usually at parish level; look for **Church Records – Indexes**)
 - FamilySearch indexed records
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Tips for using parish register indexes

- Ignore the prefixes! (van, van der, de, het, etc.)
- Some indexes are exact (i.e. Visser is separate from Visscher); others may group people by surname
- Some entries are organized by patronymic rather than by surname
- If organized by patronymic, a person can be indexed by the father's patronymic rather than their own (i.e. Marinus Marinusse, son of Marinus Adriaanse could be indexed under Marinusse **or** Adriaanse)
- **Always find original copies of documents**

NAMING PATTERNS

- Not a set rule! Can be influenced by region and time period
- If there are naming patterns in the 1800s, it's a good possibility they existed earlier
- Not always exact. Sometimes the pattern is out of order or non-existent
- Use naming patterns as research aides, not as proof positive

Most Common Naming Pattern

Eldest son	Father's father	Eldest daughter	Mother's mother
Second son	Mother's father	Second daughter	Father's mother
Third son	Father	Third daughter	Mother
Other sons	Other relatives	Other daughters	Other relatives

PATRONYMICS

- Based on a given name; can end in –sen, –se, –s, –es, –sz (zoon), – dr (dochter), etc.
- Can be a surname, or can be a patronymic!
- Sometimes entries list both surname and patronymic, only surname, or only patronymic!
- Patronymic name is not always listed, but can be inferred (i.e. Marinus Visser, son of Adriaan Visser – patronymic is Marinus Adriaanse Visser)